

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on September 11, 2009, and the references cited therewith. A review of the claims indicates that:

- A) Claims 1, 12, 21, 25, 28, and 31 are currently amended.
- B) Claims 2, 3, 7, 13, 14, 18, 24, 27, 30, and 33 are previously canceled.
- C) Claims 5, 6, 8-10, 17, and 19 are currently cancelled.
- D) Claims 34-39 are newly added

In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims and withdrawal of the rejections.

In claims

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claims is intended to reflect cancellation of previously pending claims 5, 6, 8-10, 17, and 19 and addition of new claims 34-39. New claims 34-39 are supported by the original disclosure, and no new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

Claim 17 is objected.

Claim 17 is canceled.

§ 102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 12, 15-17, 19, 21, 23, 25, and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Fiocca (US Patent 5,732,391).

Amended independent claims 1, 12, 21, 25, and 28 substantially recite the same subject matter as recited in allowed claims 11 and 20. Therefore, amended independent claims 1, 12, 21, 25, and 28 should be found allowable and such action is respectfully requested.

Claims 4, 15, 16, 23, and 29 should be found allowable because they each depend directly or indirectly from the respective one of amended independent claims 1, 12, 21, 25, and 28, all of which are patentable for the reasons presented above.

For at least the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 USC § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 4, 12, 15, 16, 21, 23, 25, 28, and 29 be withdrawn.

§ 103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 9, 22, 26, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Fiocca in view of Davidson (US Patent 6,246,345).

Amended independent claims 21, 25, and 31 substantially recite the same subject matter as recited in allowed claims 11 and 20. Therefore, amended independent claims 21, 25, and 31 should be found allowable and such action is respectfully requested.

Claims 22, 26, and 32 should be found allowable because they each depend directly or indirectly from the respective one of amended independent claims 21, 25, and 31, all of which are patentable for the reasons presented above.

For at least the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 USC § 103(a) rejection of claims 22, 26, 31, and 32 be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 11 and 20 are allowed.

Applicants note with appreciation allowance of claims 11 and 20.

Conclusion

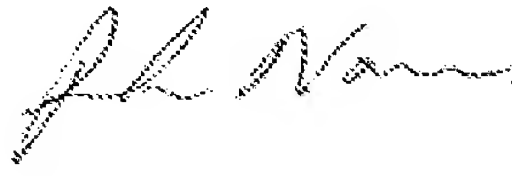
Applicants respectfully submit that the claims 1, 4, 11, 12, 15, 16, 20-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, and 34-39 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney (603-888-7958) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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